

used to identify the orientation of the image, and prints of the correctly oriented image are made at the same kiosk.

The Patent Office asserts Vallmajo et al. discloses a kiosk network, pointing to col. 4, lines 55-57, and col. 27, lines 13-21. However, these sections of Vallmajo et al. disclose a computer network connection from the kiosk used to access images or text from the World Wide Web, or to update program code pertaining to determining the orientation of the scanned image. Although it is mentioned at col. 27, lines 15-22, that images can be obtained from a computer server on the World Wide Web or another network, no indication is given of how such images might be used.

Further, Vallmajo et al. does not, contrary to the Patent Office position, teach, disclose, or suggest storing an image in memory. The Patent Office points to col. 27, lines 25-28 for teaching storing an image in memory. However, that section of Vallmajo et al. describes only storing program code in non-volatile and system memory. There is no mention of storing the image.

Vallmajo et al. does not teach, disclose, or suggest many elements of the claimed invention as set forth at least in independent claims 1 and 14, from which all other claims depend. For example, Vallmajo et al. does not teach, disclose, or suggest a network of kiosks, generating an identifier, storing an image, providing the identifier to a recipient, using the identifier to access an image, or using the image to generate a product at any kiosk, as opposed to only the kiosk at which the image was inputted.

Meyer et al. discloses a method for saving images from a memory card, camera, or other storage medium to a remote network location, thus freeing a user's portable memory for taking more images, for example, while on vacation. Meyer et al. discloses depositing the images, and receiving a receipt identifying the images and a code number for each image for retrieval.

Meyer et al. does not teach, disclose, or suggest that the kiosk at which image input can be done is connected to any other kiosks, or that the image product can be generated at a kiosk. Meyer et al., at paragraphs 0023 and 0024 discloses that the user:

logs onto the image storage web site via a personal computer and downloads the image. . . . For example, the remote site might be a mail server . . . , a server that accesses the personal web page of the customer, or a server that accesses the web site of an on-line service provider.

Thus, no indication is made of connection to another kiosk, or the ability to print images at another kiosk. Further, Meyer et al. only teachings printing thumbnail images at the kiosk used to enter the user's electronic images in order to provide visual confirmation of the images stored.

Thus, Meyer et al. does not overcome the deficiencies of Vallmajo et al. because neither reference teaches, discloses, or suggests at least a network of connected kiosks, or using the image to generate a product at any one of the network of connected kiosks as set forth at least in independent claims 1 and 14, from which all other claims depend. For at least the above reasons, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is in order.

The Office Action rejects claims 3-7, 9, 16-20, and 22-38 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Vallmajo et al. (US 6,791,723) in view of Meyer et al. (US 2002/0116278), and further in view of Redd et al. (US 6,646,754). For at least the following reasons, Applicants traverse the rejection.

Vallmajo et al and Meyer et al. are discussed above, which discussion is incorporated into the argument by reference.

Redd et al. is directed to a system of photo order management, and backprinting useful information for reordering on the back of the printed images. A user forwards his images to a photofinisher electronically or physically, provides order information, including who is to receive various image products from the order, and the photofinisher prints the products and appropriately mails the correct product(s) directly to the correct recipients. An image including the recipient's address information and reorder information can be printed with each batch of photo products (col. 17, lines 10-39). Reorder information, include an image identifying code, can be printed on the back of the images (col. 17, line 64, - col. 18, line 10). The batches of printed images are shipped directly from the photofinisher to the intended recipient (col. 18, lines 40, and col. 32, lines 21-40). Barcode numbers can be assigned to the overall order and/or individual sub-batches based on recipient or processing requirements (col. 21, line 61, - col. 22, line 8).

Redd et al. does not overcome the deficiencies of Vallmajo et al., Meyer et al., or any combination thereof. For example, Redd et al. does not teach, disclose or

suggest at least a network of connected kiosks, or generating an image product at one of the networked kiosks, as set forth at least in independent claims 1 and 14, from which claims 3-7, 9, 16-20, and 22-25 depend. Applicants note the features of independent claims 1 and 14 are also present in independent claims 26 and 32, from which claims 27-31 and 33-38 depend.

Redd et al. further does not disclose or suggest the additional features of claims 26-31 of printing a postcard with a recipient's name and address, or sending the postcard to the recipient. What Redd et al. discloses is printing an image including such information, and using the image as the address label for the package of image products for that recipient (col. 17, lines 10-39). No independent postcard is printed or sent.

Further, Redd et al. does not teach, disclose, or suggest all the features of claims 32-38 of sending a first postcard to a first recipient, having the first recipient enter an image, sending a second postcard with an image identifier to a second recipient, and having the second recipient generate an image product using the information on the postcard, all such generation of postcards and images being performed at networked kiosks.

For at least the above reasons, no combination of Vallmajo et al., Meyer et al., or Redd et al., nor any reference individually, teaches, discloses, or suggests all of the features of the claimed invention. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are in order, and are respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 8 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Vallmajo et al. (US 6,791,723) in view of Meyer et al. (US 2002/0116278), and further in view of Liebenow (US 2002/0085840). For at least the following reasons, Applicants traverse the rejection.

Vallmajo et al and Meyer et al. are discussed above, which discussion is incorporated into the argument by reference.

Liebenow is relied on for the teaching of sending a telephonic message (paragraph 31). However, Liebenow does not overcome the deficiencies of Vallmajo et al., Meyer et al., or any combination thereof. For example, Liebenow does not teach, disclose, or suggest at least a network of connected kiosks, or generating an

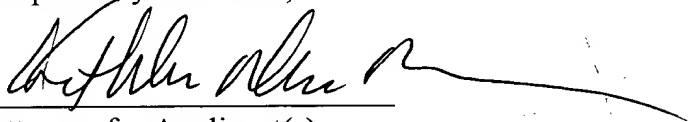
image product at one of the networked kiosks, as set forth at least in independent claims 1 and 14, from which claims 8 and 21 depend.

For at least the above reasons, no combination of Vallmajo et al., Meyer et al., or Liebenow, nor any reference individually, teaches, discloses, or suggests all of the features of the claimed invention. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are in order, and are respectfully requested.

For at least the above reasons, all of pending claims 1, 3-14, and 16-38 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and prompt action in the form of a Notice of Allowance are thus respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner require anything further, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,



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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.